



# **DECREE**

## **OF THE RELEGATION OF**

### **SEVEN DOLORS CHURCH, WYNDMOOR, PENNSYLVANIA**

#### **TO PROFANE BUT NOT SORDID USE**

Seven Dolors Church, Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania has served as a worship site of Saint Genevieve Parish, Flourtown since 2003. The church, however, is no longer needed by the parish and the parish lacks the funding necessary to repair and maintain Seven Dolors Church without impeding the ministry of the parish. Consideration, therefore, must be given as to whether sufficient grave causes exist for the relegation of Seven Dolors Church to profane but not sordid use.

The following grave causes suggest that the church be so relegated and no longer be used for divine worship:

- 1) Seven Dolors Church is no longer needed by Saint Genevieve Parish. Seven Dolors Church is approximately one and a half miles from Saint Genevieve Church, so it is not a great burden for the faithful to come to the parish church to worship;
- 2) Saint Genevieve Parish has endeavored to keep Seven Dolors Church in good repair. The parish, however, does not have the resources to continue to repair and to maintain the church without negatively impacting the ministries of the parish. In addition to operating costs, the cost of necessary repairs for the church is an estimated \$232,800;
- 3) there is no other source of funding and the financial burden of repairing and maintaining the church would cause important pastoral programs of Saint Genevieve Parish, such as its support of Catholic education, to suffer within the next few years due to lack of funds;
- 4) the church building does not have any particular architectural, historical, or artistic significance; and,
- 5) having all of the parishioners worship at the parish church will enhance parish unity.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescripts of canon 1212 and canon 1222, §2 of the Code of Canon Law, having judged that sufficient grave causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired and having consulted with the Council of Priests on December 13, 2013, I hereby **DECREE** that Seven Dolors Church, Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania, be relegated to profane but not sordid use.

This decree is effective as of July 1, 2014, and is to be communicated to the members of Saint Genevieve Parish and to the faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Curia of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on the twenty-first day of January, in the Year of Our Lord 2014.

Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M.Cap.  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

**SEAL**

Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure  
Chancellor